

# Mineral Industry Surveys

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## MARKETABLE PHOSPHATE ROCK IN SEPTEMBER 2005

U.S. marketable phosphate rock production in September was 3.42 million metric tons (Mt), which was 2% lower than in the previous month, according to the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS). Production for the 9 months of the year was 9% higher than for the same period in 2004.

Phosphate rock sold or used in the United States in September was 3.22 Mt, an 8% decrease from that of August. Total sold or used for January to August were 7% higher than in 2004. U.S. producer stocks were 4% higher than in August.

Imports of phosphate rock were estimated based on U.S. Census Bureau figures and data from the Moroccan producer, because Census suppressed some phosphate rock import data for Morocco. The Moroccan producer supplies more than 99% of the phosphate rock imported by the United States. In addition,

Census trade data were not available for the current month. The USGS estimated that imports of phosphate rock averaged about 240,000 metric tons per month in the first seven months of 2005. Table 4 contains phosphate rock export data from Morocco for January through September. The Moroccan producer shipped 2.13 Mt of phosphate rock to the United States in the first 9 months of the year, which was a 13% increase over the same period in 2004.

Domestic apparent consumption for 2004 was 38.3 Mt. Apparent consumption for 2005 was projected to be 40.6 Mt based on annualized sold or use data and estimated imports. Annualized data are based on the current average monthly rate of consumption projected for the remainder of the current year.

TABLE 1  
U.S. PHOSPHATE ROCK STATISTICS, BY REGION<sup>1</sup>

(Thousand metric tons)

Period	Marketable production			Sold and/or used			Ending stocks <sup>2</sup>		
	Florida and North Carolina	Idaho and Utah	U.S. total	Florida and North Carolina	Idaho and Utah	U.S. total	Florida and North Carolina	Idaho and Utah	U.S. total
2004:									
January-Sept	22,600	3,960	26,500	22,600	3,790	26,400	XX	XX	XX
September	1,760	549	2,310	1,880	406	2,280	5,150	2,060	7,210
October	2,170	539	2,710	2,390	W	W	W	W	7,180
November	W	W	3,530	W	W	3,630	W	W	7,170
December	W	W	2,900	W	446	W	W	W	7,020
January-December	30,300	5,390	35,700	30,800	5,030	35,800	XX	XX	XX
2005:									
January	W	W	3,060	2,410	422	2,830	W	W	7,130
February	W	W	2,860	W	W	2,790	W	W	7,100
March	W	W	3,160	W	W	3,240	W	W	6,990
April	W	W	3,000	W	W	3,160	W	W	6,910
May	W	W	3,480	W	W	3,070	W	W	7,310
June	W	W	3,100	W	W	3,050	W	W	7,360
July	W	W	3,350	W	W	3,500	W	W	7,220
August	W	W	3,480	W	W	3,490	W	W	7,140
September	W	W	3,420	W	W	3,220	W	W	7,410
Total	W	W	28,900	W	W	28,300	XX	XX	XX

W Withheld to avoid disclosing company proprietary data. XX Not applicable.

<sup>1</sup>Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

<sup>2</sup>Includes inventory adjustments.

TABLE 2  
U.S. IMPORTS OF PHOSPHATE ROCK<sup>1,2</sup>

(Thousand metric tons and thousand dollars)

Period	Quantity	Value
2004:		
January-August	993	36,100
August	157	6,030
September	118	4,990
October	137	5,240
November	80	2,190
December	150	5,470
January-December	1,640	60,000
Total year <sup>3</sup>	2,500	91,300
2005: <sup>4</sup>		
January	140	5,160
February	143	6,190
March	48	1,300
April	183	8,440
May	227	11,000
June	184	8,420
July	103	4,840
August	66	1,810
Total	1,090	47,200

<sup>1</sup>Cost, insurance, and freight values at U.S. ports.

<sup>2</sup>Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

<sup>3</sup>Includes an estimate for data suppressed by the U.S. Census Bureau.

<sup>4</sup>Data for the current month were not available at time of publication.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau; data on the majority of phosphate rock imports from Morocco were suppressed by Census.

TABLE 3  
COMPARATIVE U.S. PHOSPHATE ROCK STATISTICS

(Million metric tons, unless otherwise specified)

	2003	2004	2005 <sup>e, 1</sup>
Marketable production:			
Florida and North Carolina	29.1	30.3	33.0
Idaho and Utah	5.0	5.4	5.6
Total <sup>2</sup>	34.1	35.7	38.6
Sold or used by producers:			
Florida and North Carolina	30.2	30.8	31.3
Idaho and Utah	5.2	5.0	6.5
Total <sup>2</sup>	35.4	35.8	37.8
Yearend stocks	7.3	7.0	7.4
Exports reported by producers	W	--	--
Average value per ton	W	--	--
Imports for consumption <sup>e</sup>	2.4	2.5	2.8
Average value per ton	\$35.55	\$36.50	NA
Apparent consumption <sup>e, 3</sup>	37.8	38.3	40.6

<sup>e</sup>Estimated. W Withheld to avoid disclosing company proprietary data. -- Zero.

<sup>1</sup>Annualized data.

<sup>2</sup>Data may not add to totals shown because of independent rounding.

<sup>3</sup>Calculated as domestic sold or used plus imports.

TABLE 4  
MOROCCAN  
PHOSPHATE ROCK EXPORTS<sup>1</sup>  
JANUARY - SEPTEMBER 2005

(Thousand metric tons)

Country of destination	Quantity
Australia	385
Austria	136
Belgium	304
Brazil	559
Bulgaria	72
Colombia	75
Croatia	210
France	285
Germany	95
Greece	57
India	823
Indonesia	366
Iran	104
Italy	65
Japan	85
Korea, Republic of	307
Lithuania	120
Mexico	728
New Zealand	453
Norway	31
Pakistan	221
Peru	69
Poland	634
Portugal	76
Romania	203
Russia	17
Spain	1,250
Taiwan	24
Thailand	270
Turkey	16
United States	2,130
Uruguay	13
Venezuela	115
Total	10,300

<sup>1</sup>Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to total shown.

Source: Office Cherifien des Phosphates--  
Casablanca, Morocco.